

VZCZCXRO0603
PP RUEHFK
DE RUEHKO #3147 3180217
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
P 130217Z NOV 08
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8812
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
RUCPDOG/USDOC WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUYNAAAC/COMNAVFORJAPAN YOKOSUKA JA PRIORITY
RHHMUNA/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI PRIORITY
RHHMHBA/COMPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI//N541// PRIORITY
RHMFIUU/HQ PACAF HICKAM AFB HI//CC/PA// PRIORITY
RUHBANB/OKINAWA FLD OFC US FORCES JAPAN CP BUTLER JA PRIORITY
RHMFIUU/USFJ PRIORITY
INFO RUEHFK/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA 0981
RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE 4768
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 6397
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 2615
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL 2379
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 2546
RHEHAAA/NSC WASHDC

UNCLAS TOKYO 003147

SIPDIS

STATE FOR I/RF, PA/PR/FPC/W, IIP/G/EA, EAP/PD, R/MR,
EAP/J, EAP/P, PM;
USTR FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE;
TREASURY FOR OASIA/IMI;
SECDEF FOR OASD/PA;
CP BUTLER OKINAWA FOR AREA FIELD OFFICE;
PACOM HONOLULU FOR PUBLIC DIPLOMACY ADVISOR

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [OIIP](#) [KMDR](#) [KPAO](#) [JA](#)

SUBJECT: TOKYO MEDIA REACTION - TAIWAN

11. LEAD STORIES: Top stories on Thursday morning included plans by Prime Minister Aso to pledge at the upcoming G20 summit Japan's contribution of up to 10 trillion yen to the IMF in order to shore up its emergency loan program for emerging economies.

12. "Split in Taiwan Should Be Avoided" The liberal Tokyo Shimbun editorialized (11/13): "Former Taiwanese President Chen Shui-bian was arrested on Wednesday on bribery and other charges. He maintains his innocence and described the move as political persecution. The arrest of Chen, who still has many supporters, runs the risk of dividing Taiwanese society.... Chen has many fervent supporters, especially in the southern part of Taiwan, where calls for independence are strong. His arrest could escalate tensions in Taiwanese society, and instability there could provoke hardliners in China. Legal authorities must handle the case fairly. The current administration should not use the incident for political purposes."

SCHIEFFER